HOUSE No. 1344

By Mr. Kujawski of Webster, petition of Paul Kujawski for legislation to regulate the release of balloons into the environment. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT REGULATING THE RELEASE OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF BALLOONS INTO THE ENVIRONMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 93 of the General Laws is hereby
- 2 amended by adding the following section:—
- 3 Section 107. (a) No person, firm or corporation shall intention-
- 4 ally release, organize the release or intentionally cause to released
- 5 within a twenty-four hour period, ten or more balloons inflated
- 6 with a gas that is lighter than air, except for: (1) balloons released
- 7 by a person on behalf of a governmental agency or pursuant to a
- 8 governmental contract for scientific or meteorological purposes;
- 9 (2) hot air balloons that are covered after launching; or (3) bal-
- 10 loons released indoors.
- 11 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a)
- 12 shall be liable for a civil penalty of two hundred and fifty dollars.
- SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on July first, two thou-2 sand and three.